Application of translation notions to interspecific communication: birds and translation

Abstract. The questions regarding animal communication, its workings and systems, including possible approaches to use our knowledge in order to understand animals better, have once again recently gained increased interest. These ideas serve as the main motivation of the given paper that tries to find some similarities and highlight the differences in human language and animal communication, directing the analysis towards a particular class of animals. The aim of this paper is to determine whether specific parts of the concept of translation in general sense and some notions used in translation proper can be applied when analysing interspecific communication between members of the class Aves. The research is conducted using the ideas of translation studies, biotranslation, Jakob von Uexküll's Umwelt theory, and methodology used in word translation experiments in humans. While our understanding of animals and their mind is still limited, and human language may not be set as an equal to animal communication systems, concepts used in humanities may offer a different insight into the world of animal understanding.

Keywords: biotranslation, animal communication, interspecific communication